



The Blurb



Newsletter of The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club

71 Years of Public Service, 1949-2020

Volume 71 Number 3

www.phil-mont.org

March 2020

Board Meeting on the 4th Members Meeting on the 11th

*Celebration of Life
Richard Moll*



June 4, 1932 - February 7, 2020

art. Sam Kavcovich - N8QIC



See page 5 for an appreciation by Bob Thomas

The Blurb

The Blurb is published monthly by and for the members of The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, Inc., whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. ***Copying and quoting*** is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs.

Requests should be sent to the Editor:

Rick DeVigiliis ND3B@ARRL.net

Subscriptions are available to non-members for \$12, addressed to the Treasurer.

Labels and mailing: KB3IV

Submissions deadline: All copy must be in the hands of the Editor by the 20th of the previous month.

Directors:

N3QV (22)
K3RON (22)
K2RSJ (22)
WA3DSP (20)
WU3I (20)
KB2ERL (20)
W3RM
(EMERITUS)

Contact Phil-Mont: P.O. Box 404 Warminster, PA 18974
<http://www.phil-mont.org>
Website: Eric N3QV & Andrew KC2PMW

For club information: Contact any club officer, or the repeaters listed below. Address or club directory changes and articles for the membership e-mail list should be sent to: KB3IV

Sunday Morning Net Schedules

- **2 Meter/ 70cm Net** at 0930L on W3QV repeater
- **10-on-10 Net** at 1000L 28.393 MHz USB (\pm QRM) *Suspended*
- **75 meter Net** at 1020L 3.993 MHz LSB
- **ARES** at 2100L on the W3QV repeater

Committees

Blurb folding: KB3IV & N3GLU
Directory: KB3IV
Field Day: KC2PMW
Fusion Coord: NC3U

Internet: N3QV & KC2PMW
Membership: KB3IV
Net Control: KB3IV

Program: W3AOK
Refreshments: W3AOK
Repeater: W3AOK

Scholarship: KB3IV
Sunshine: N3GLU
VE Program: NS3K
Welcome: N3UBY
Youth: KC2PMW

All visitors are welcome!

The club meets at 7:00 PM on the ***second*** non-holiday Wednesday each month except July and August at Giant Supermarket, 315 York Rd, Willow Grove, PA
Maps and directions are available at www.phil-mont.org.

License Examinations are held on the fourth ***non-holiday Thursday*** each month at
Community Ambulance Association, 1414 E. Butler Pike, Ambler PA 19002

Registration begins at 7:00 P.M. Applicants should contact Jim McCloskey NS3K at 215-275-2979 or jmcclloskey@msn.com for the latest information.

Club Stations W3QV/R: The Jim Spencer Memorial Repeater System
Ridge & Port Royal Avenues, Philadelphia, PA ***Trustee: W3RM***
147.03 MHz + PL 91.5 Hz 444.80 MHz + PL 186.2 Hz C4FM Fusion digital
Reach us on EchoLink through W3QV-R AllStar Node 41624
W3AA Trustee: WU3I
W3EM: Field Day/special event station Trustee: N3QV

The Officers

President: Greg Malone WA3GM Greg Malone wa3gm@yahoo.com

Vice President: Jim Fisher AJ3DI kc3bra@gmail.com

Treas: WB3DZZ George Gianios ggianios@verizon.net

Secretary: W3AFV Chuck Farrell chuckfarrell@comcast.net

The Prez Sez ...

Hello Phil-Mont from Sunny South Florida.

I will keep it short this month as there is not a lot going on well at least here anyway.

The WX has been pretty good so far here in FL with the exception of a few chilly mornings and the occasional rain now and then.

I attended the Orlando Hamcation a few weeks ago and met up with some fellow Phil-Monter's and some roosters and had a good time. I spent most of the weekend working at the 10-10 International booth but I did have some time to take in part of the show and see some of my friends from the CWOPS and SKCC booth. I will post a few pics elsewhere in the blurb.

My remote operation is going pretty well from here and I am able to check into most nets both HF and VHF/UHF.

For you DX guys don't forget VP8JP from South Orkney Island is out there until the first week of March on all the bands and modes. I worked them yesterday for an all-time new one. I am glad to finally get them in the log after all these years.

Our March speaker will be ARRL EPA Section Manager Georg Miller, W3GWM. Please come out and join us as George tells us what is going on with the League for EPA.

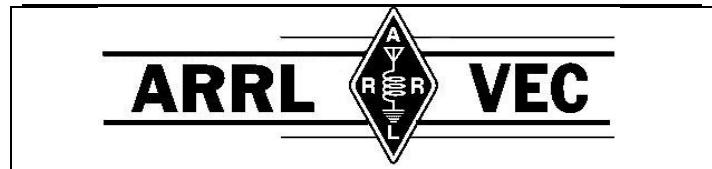
If anyone has any suggestions for a speaker or would like to speak at one of our meetings, please let any of the club officers or board members know. Your input is vital, and we welcome all suggestions.

Don't forget to sign up for the Phil-Mont I.O. Group. This is a good way to share ideas amongst the membership. Sal NC3U is the moderator the group. For more info and to join the group contact Sal.

Well that's all from here for now. Everyone stay well and we'll see you back home at the end of March.

Thank you for your support.

73, Greg WA3GM



*The Thursday evening session is
On the 26th this month and Saturday
morning session on the 14th*

As always, many thanks to our VE team!

Phil-Mont Birthdays & Tidbytes

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 01 John Furlong – KC2TUT
- 06 Tina Furlong (XYL KC2TUT)
Bryan Kobe - KB3WHR
- 08 Bill Hewitt - W3FRB
- 12 Lamonte Cuff - AB3LC
Linda Gianios - (XYL WB3DZZ)
Tricia King - (XYL WBEBPI)

13 Rosemary Canuso (XYL N2ATB)
 Ben Johns - K3JQH
 17 James Smith - AC3BJ
 21 Frank Meo - KB2AYS
 23 Jane Hewitt - KC3FSR (XYL W3FRB)
 28 Barbara Stein (XYL KB3AFH)
 Tony Canuso - N2ATB
 29 James Walston,Jr - KC3NVS
 30 Robert H. Rose - N3TWO

MEMBERSHIP STATS

118 Full paid Members
 10 Family Members
 2 Youth members
 1 Honorary Member

From the Secretary

Meeting called to order by AJ3DI at 7:01 PM

Moment of Silence for Richard Moll, W3RM SK

Memories of W3RM - KB3IV

"Eyeball QSO" - round of introductions

Repeater Report - W3AOK
 All good

New Member - George Walsh, KB3WAQ

Two Visitors - WA3QVU and WA3KSK

VE Report - NS3K
 Next session is Thursday 2/27 at 7 PM in Ambler,
 PA

Secretary's Report - Reading waived (It's in the
 BLURB)

New Business
 Philly Tech Week - K3CL
 Would Phil-Mont want to participate? More info to
 come

Old Business - AJ3DI

If you haven't paid your dues yet, they are due
 Reminder about the Amateur Newsline on the
 repeater at 9 AM Sunday

Reminder that 75 Meter net has been moved to 10
 AM Sunday and the 10 Meter net is temporarily
 suspended

Business Meeting closed at 7:17 PM

Presentation on Young Amateur Radio Operators -
 K3CL

Chuck Farrell W3AFV

*Our intrepid leader sucking up
 the Florida sunshine!*



The Rooster Net at Orlando HamCation - Feb. 8, 2020
 Left-to-right: Bob W0AGE, Steve WU3I, Dan WW3N,
 Greg WA3GM, Hal K3ATO, and Dick K3ITH



RICHARD A. MOLL, W3RM**AN APPRECIATION BY BOB THOMAS**

There are hams who eat and breathe amateur radio, but Dick Moll went far beyond the confines of the hobby as a well-rounded, public-spirited man who not only chalked up a remarkable record of service and achievement as a ham, but also as an exemplary human being dedicated to helping people in need. The comments that follow illustrate not only W3RM's stellar amateur radio accomplishments, but the way he combined his ham activities to benefit a broad swath of deserving humanity.

When he was getting interested in amateur radio, Dick was fortunate to be a neighbor of Brad Martin, W3QV, who taught him the fundamentals of radio with emphasis on practical operating skills. Brad had been active in the ARRL as Director and SCM, and he instilled in Dick a love of CW and traffic handling. Thus, when his first ticket arrived ca.1948 and he got on the air as W3PDJ, Dick immediately became immersed, not so much in DXing – that was to come later – but primarily handling ARRL NTS traffic on the EPA Net on 3610 kc., a frequency tuned so often it is claimed by some to be “corroded” into his dial! His ardor for traffic handling also drew him to the 40-meter SSN (Swing Shift Net) and it was not long before he had *two* ARC-5 rigs in operation at once, one on 80 and the other on 40, transferring traffic every evening between the EPN and SSN. Not bad for a high school kid who was simultaneously being called to dinner by his anxious mother!

All through high school Dick and his close pal, Harry Martin, W3PSH, Brad's son, became totally immersed in ham radio. The enthusiastic pair conducted radio and code classes for any schoolmate they could snare. Dick even taught code to his sister, saw her through licensing, and then built a compact rig to enable her to keep in touch with the family while away at college. Dick and Harry became active in the Keystone Amateur Radio Association, a small club that opened new opportunities with intense Field Day participation,

especially for hot operating on 40 CW, where Dick excelled by his uncanny ability to simultaneously copy three calls at once: the one in contact, one above frequency, and another below! Dick's sending was impeccable, described by Brad Martin as, “as good as a machine.”

But life is made of adversity as well as success. A pivotal event occurred in Dick's life when Harry Martin – his best buddy – was tragically killed in an aircraft accident. The two had been so close, and Dick's sorrow so profound, that he was able to overcome his grief only by radically reshaping his life's ambitions because, as he confided to his sister, “now I have two lives to live.” He did that – and more!

One of the ways Dick fulfilled his vow to honor Harry Martin was through participation in the Big Brothers Association of Philadelphia, where he became a member of the Board of Directors. Over the years, Dick successfully mentored several young boys through their perilous teenage years into early adulthood. In fact, Dick became foster father to the son of an earlier charge who had suffered an untimely sudden death. That “Grandson” and another foster son, have become successful in business, married and now have children of their own, who Dick proudly called his “Grandchildren,” and who fondly call him “Pop-Pop.” One of the boys he raised commented that, “He gave me a future.” So close had they become, that in 1997 Dick legally adopted them as his sons and heirs. Now, that doesn't have anything to do with amateur radio. However, it speaks volumes about the character of the man, the same character qualities that he brought to every aspect of his rich association with amateur radio.

W3RM's amateur radio expertise converged with his dedication to serve in 1989 when a missionary from his church established a Christian mission in Haiti. Prior to leaving home for Haiti, the minister's wife was coached by Dick in obtaining her Novice ticket, and he assembled a 10 meter station for installation at the mission. Those were turbulent times in Haiti, following a military coup supported

by the U.S. government. There were horrific human rights violations, including random beatings of poverty-stricken civilians, murders of dissidents, torching of the mission, and a total ban on international telephone calls. Dick worked the Haiti station at dawn every morning, passing traffic for the mission hospital, handling personal messages and phone patches, and arranging on the U.S. end for delivery of radio and life support supplies. He did this for five years, becoming the lifeline for Americans struggling in an unspeakably hostile environment. Not only that, when another mission was later established in the Dominican Republic, Dick repeated his dedicated effort for them as well.

Sixty-five years ago, Hurricane Diane ravaged the East Coast and the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club responded. Dick had become interested in mobile operation years before when he and W3QV drove around the neighborhood with Brad's SW-3 in search of noise sources in the 10- meter band. He subsequently became active in Phil-Mont and, as the club's hurricane emergency response took hold, Dick drove to Stroudsburg, PA. He was ferried in a rowboat, carrying a battery powered two-meter AM rig under his arm, across the rampaging river to isolated East Stroudsburg. Setting up his station in a jail cell (!), Dick handled vital emergency and health and welfare traffic continuously, the only link between East Stroudsburg and the outside world, until telephone service was restored twenty-four hours later.

His close association with Phil-Mont continued over the intervening years, but always in the background in unglamorous, but critical roles. The club depended on Dick's operating skill to rack-up a superlative Field Day score on 40 CW; he was an ORS for many years, keeping us informed of latest news from ARRL Headquarters; he ran MCW code practice training sessions on our repeater every week, sending at speeds from 5- to 30-wpm in response to individual listeners' requests. His continuing service as Treasurer was a valued asset for smooth financial management, and beyond

finances, Dick was a steady influence in all club matters. As an independent endeavor, Dick established and administered with utmost integrity, the W5YI VE Testing Program in suburban Philadelphia.

Few people – even hams – tolerate their sleep being disturbed by radio, but Dick willingly permitted it, carrying on a tradition established in the 'fifties by Brad Martin. In that bygone era, some eighty members of Phil-Mont had crystal-controlled radio gear in their cars and at home, all operating on 29.493 Mc. Brad ran his monitor receiver 24-hours a day so, regardless of the time, anyone in difficulty had only to get on "the frequency," give a shout, and Brad would be right back for them. After the club migrated to a 2-meter repeater (not un-coincidentally with the call W3QV), Dick continued the tradition of full-time monitoring, even enduring 4 AM *kerchunkers*, to ensure he would be available to help anyone in case of a late-night emergency. How many clubs are blessed with a member possessing that kind of dedication?

One of the behind-the-scenes accomplishments by W3RM was acquisition of 501(c)(3) charitable status for Phil-Mont, opening the way for administration of the Claude R. Haring, Jr. W3IIM Memorial Scholarship by the Foundation for Amateur Radio. Dick oversaw the financial health of the fund, encouraged donations, and recommended recipients to FAR. Other scholarships have since begun through Dick's efforts submitting appropriate forms and soliciting donations. Again, however, his involvement went well beyond official duties. Recipients of the scholarships are young college-bound hams and university students eager for advancement. Some of the candidates have additionally benefited from Dick's amateur radio mentoring and have used their ham activities to demonstrate their capabilities and desire for advancement. One recipient also benefited from Dick's business acumen. At a crossroads in his career decision whether to accept a corporate job or to become an entrepreneur in a field he loved, Dick advised him to form his own business. Following Dick's advice and encouragement, the young fellow now counts numerous clients for his services as an independent Information Technology consultant.

Dick Moll also pursued his hobby on a grand scale well beyond traffic nets, local club activities, and mentoring budding hams. His expanded horizon was exemplified by two DX-peditions he conducted with N3MT, a product of his mentoring who had developed into a well-rounded amateur highly proficient in CW operation. The first trip was in 2001 to Turks and Caicos, where they operated as VP5/W3RM, making 4500 contacts in just two weeks. The next year the duo traveled to Aruba where, as P40RM, they batted out 7500 QSOs within three weeks to DXers all over the world. And on top of that, Dick, a renaissance man if there ever was one, mastered the intricacies of scuba diving in several weeks of intensive training before embarking for the Caribbean so he could have a relaxing, physically stimulating diversion during breaks in the operating schedule. The two DX-peditions and myriad general operating QSOs have resulted in 12,000 "Look-Up's" for information about W3RM on the QRZ.com website!

His quest for adventure fulfilled, Dick began to moderate his amateur radio activities somewhat. However, he still encouraged, advised and materially assisted new hams interested in HF operation with special guidance on becoming good citizens of amateur radio. His involvement in Phil-Mont continued as he consistently racked-up impressive Field Day scores on 40 CW, through his regular presence at meetings, and of course consistent operation from his home and on the road through the .03 repeater. As Treasurer, Dick conducted the annual task of collecting dues and keeping club finances in order. Through all of that ham radio activity, the whimsical good nature of W3RM was exemplified by his choice of **88** as his Post Office Box number.

Dick gradually withdrew from amateur activities as a dark, invasive disease began to afflict him, eventually claiming his life. Although he is gone now, W3RM continues to live on in the memories of each of us fortunate to have been touched by his humanity toward man. We are all better for having known Dick Moll and can do no better in honoring him than to embody his qualities in our own lives.

de W3NE

Greetings from Frostfest 2020 by Richard Roth, K2RSJ

This was the 2nd annual trip that Bill W3AOK and I have made to Frostfest. First thing to know about Frostfest is that it is ALL INDOORS, there are numerous restrooms and a decent concession stand all in the same facility so no need to leave once you are there and parking is free. With your paid ticket, which you can pre-purchase at a slight discount, you receive a raffle ticket as there are hourly raffles throughout the day. You must be present to win. In addition, there is a full slate of speakers and presentations. This year included Rich Moseson W2VU who is the Editorial Director of CQ Magazine and Dr. Tamitha Skov ([Space Weather Woman](#)). The organizers also hold a VE testing session in the morning, so you can test, get licensed or upgrade and then go downstairs to buy all the things you'll need to go with your new/upgraded ham ticket.

There are a few dealers there and numerous tables set up. There are a couple antenna manufacturers there, but none of the large radio companies are there. The aisles are wide and the facility is handicapped friendly. You will find just about everything you could hope for in a hamfest. Plan on 3+ hours to peruse all the tables and add time for eyeball QSOs and any forums you might attend and you'll have a perfect winter ham radio experience outside of your shack. They offered a special rate at the local DoubleTree Hotel (very nice and \$119/night all in). The ride takes about 4.5 to 5 hours +/- rest stops and that includes the inevitable traffic around Washington DC which is unavoidable no matter when you go.

One of the main motivators for making the trip again was the opportunity to see Kay, N3KN, and Carter N3AO. For most, no introduction is necessary as they are true Amateur Radio icons.

For those who don't know them, Kay is a former ARRL President and held many other positions in the league. Carter was a professor at Cabrini College (now University) and was one of my professors when I attended Cabrini (1984-1988). Carter was also my Elmer along with others from MARC (Mid-Atlantic Amateur Radio Club) as I embarked on my ham radio experience when I was originally licensed as KA3NXM and back when Carter was KA3IME. From what I have heard, they were also very active members of our club as well. Kay is an active contester and award chaser, Carter loves hiking and remote QRP when he can and he is also a Rooster (#529). I could go on endlessly about how great they are, but suffice it to say they have helped shape the hobby for countless hams over the last 30+ years and I wish them the best. It was great to see them, they sound and look great. They asked me to extend greetings to the Philmont Club, so to those of you who know them, here's your greeting from them.

So to wrap it up, if you want an early in the year taste of a hamfest, Frostfest is worthy of the trip especially if you're not making the trek to Hamcation in Orlando. Check it out at [www.frostfest.com](#) and on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/RichmondFrostfest/>. Get on their list and you'll be all ready to go next year which has been set for Saturday February 6, 2021.

Richard Roth, K2RSJ

Pictures next page



March at Phil-Mont

Don't forget the ARES net on Sunday nights and the Digital net on Tuesday nights.

1-KB3SJS

4- Board Meeting

8-K3XS

Daylight Savings Begins

11- General Meeting

14- Saturday VE session

15-W3AFV

19- First Day of Spring

22-NC3U

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For Sale

1/8" (290#) & 3/16" (380#) Dark Olive Drab

Braided Cord · 100% Polyester/Dacron Knit

Braided. Nice stuff! Tough and long lasting · UV Resistant and Low Stretch Proudly Made in the U.S.A.! Contact Steve WU3I at wu3i@arrl.net or 215-605-6074

Yaesu Ft 2000 completely stock, hand microphone, internal power supply, manuals. From the estate of W3UY Larry. Contact Steve WU3I at wu3i@arrl.net or 2156056074 cell

\$1500.00. Fully tested and working flawlessly.

Stephen Hoch WU3I

For Sale

Yaesu FT-450D Transceiver 160-6 100w

Yaesu FP-1023 Power Supply

Both items never removed from original box

\$500.

This is a current model. Check out the online prices and see what you save.

Contact Ed KB3IV kb3iv@arrl.net or 215-520- 5166

